

Easter Safety Issues: Peep, Chirp, and Quack!

- With Easter and Spring right around the corner, the Bureau of Communicable Disease Control and Prevention is promoting new educational posters that warn parents and childcare providers of the health risks from handling chicks, ducklings, and eggs. The printed poster called [Chicks Not for Children](#) (#247) discourages parents from purchasing chicks and ducklings as Easter gifts for children under 5 years old. The baby animals are frequent carriers of the *Salmonella* bacteria and pose a risk of salmonella illness for anyone handling the birds. To order this poster please use this order [form](#).
- Another poster is designed to ‘egg-ucate’ on safe egg handling during Easter egg hunts to reduce the chance of food-borne illness. The egg-ucate poster can be downloaded for printing at: <http://www.dhss.mo.gov/TopicsA-Z/SalmonellaEasterEggs.pdf>.
- For more information, check out *Why Parents Should Think Twice before Giving Baby Birds for Easter* on the CDC website at http://www.cdc.gov/healthypets/easter_chicks.htm.